

Office Of Mine Safety and Licensing

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Kentucky mine rescue contest season begins in May and ends with the Kentucky state championship in September. This is a time when our Kentucky mine rescue teams display their skills for the mining industry and mining families. It is also a time when the Kentucky coal mining community takes pride in the miners who participate in the mine rescue, bench, pre-shift, and mine emergency medical technician contest.

The Kentucky Office of Mine Safety and Licensing is proud to continue providing MSHA signature mine rescue teams for the small coal mining companies that do not have mine site rescue teams. Our pledge to Kentucky miners is that our teams will maintain a heightened state of readiness and if the unthinkable happens, Kentucky OMSL mine rescue teams and industry teams will respond and take care of the emergency.

Kentucky mine rescue teams continuously train; however, it is our hope the training and skills will never be put to use. Our Kentucky rescue teams urge the mining industry to continue to do the hard work that it takes to make our Kentucky mines safe. Safe work habits ensure that our most valuable resource, the Kentucky coal miner, goes home to his family at the end of every shift..

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REMEMBERING THE SCOTIA MINE DISASTER OF 1976



March 9, 2010, marked the 34th anniversary of the Scotia Mine Disaster that occurred at Oven Fork in Letcher County, Ky. A bronze marker was placed along U.S. 119 in remembrance of those who lost their lives that day. Family members and officials paid tribute to the victims of the mining disaster.

There were two explosions that occurred that claimed a total of 26 lives.

The first explosion, set off when faulty equipment ignited a build up of methane in a poorly ventilated mine, was on March 9, 1976.

The second explosion occurred two days later as miners and inspectors reached the site of the first explosion to investigate and document problems within the mine.

State Rep. Leslie Combs was a featured speaker at the marker dedication and paid tribute to the men whose names appear on the marker. Progress has been made on two fronts. The coal industry has increased their efforts to ensure mine safety and more strenuous laws regulating safety in coal mines have been put into place.

March 9, 1976, will forever be in the hearts of those who lived at Oven Fork, Ky during the mining disaster.



LEFT:

OMSL Executive Director Johnny Greene was one of several who addressed the crowd of 100 family members and officials who paid tribute to those who lost their lives in the Scotia Mine Disaster of 1976.

It's Mine Rescue Time Again

<u>Contest</u>	<u>Date/Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
OMSL Mine Rescue Competition	April 14-15, 2010 Hazard, Ky	Ronnie Drake 270-824-7523 Johnny Greene 502-573-0140
Smokeaters Post 2 <i>Bench (BG-4 and BioPak)</i>	May 7-8, 2010 Lexington, Ky	Jim W. Langley 606-546-5123
Western Kentucky Mining Institute Safety Days <i>Mine Rescue, First Aid, Bench (BG-4, BioPak 240—R&S) and Preshift Contest</i>	May 26-27, 2010 Madisonville, Ky	Polly Wilson 270-821-4180, ext. 1239 Wilson.Polly@DOL.gov
Kentucky River Mine Rescue <i>Bench (BG-4 and BioPak), First Aid and Preshift Contest</i>	June 15-17, 2010 Hazard, Ky	Craig Hall 606-233-2117 Eddie Sparks 606-546-5123 Ron Burns 606-546-5123
KEMI Mine Safety and Training Competition	July 13-15, 2010 Pikeville, Ky	Daven Hoskins 606-273-7202 DHoskins@KEMI.com Becca Cordon 859-425-7800, ext. 1159 RCordon@KEMI.com Marlena Hughes 606-432-0944
Kentucky State Mine Rescue <i>Bench, Preshift and MET Contest and KY Mining Institute</i>	Sept. 8-10, 2010 Lexington, Ky	Geaunita Caylor 859-257-2820 GCaylor@ENGR.UKY.EDU

FATALITIES
JANUARY - MARCH 2010

JAN. 22, 2010
TRAVIS BROCK
BLED SOE COAL
CORPORATION
ABNER BRANCH RIDER
DISTRICT: BARBOURVILLE
CAUSE:
**FALL OF FACE/RIB/
HIGHWALL**



TO VIEW A FULL REPORT PLEASE GO TO:
[HTTP://WWW.OMSL.KY.GOV/INVESTIGATIONS/](http://www.omsf.ky.gov/investigations/)

SERIOUS INJURIES:

Jan. 21, 2010
Steve Barton
Dodge Hill Mining Co., LLC
Dodge Hill No. 1
Madisonville District
Machinery Accident

MAKE IT A POINT TO PRACTICE SAFE WORKING HABITS.
IT'S SOMETHING WE CAN ALL LIVE WITH.

NEW EMPLOYEES



JOHN TOMLINSON
HARLAN DISTRICT
MINE INSPECTOR I
HIRE DATE: JAN. 1, 2010



NICKIE SIFERS
PIKEVILLE DISTRICT
MINE INSPECTOR I
HIRE DATE: JAN. 1, 2010



RANDALL VANCE
MARTIN DISTRICT
MINE INSPECTOR I
HIRE DATE: JAN. 1, 2010



DAVID MAGGARD
HAZARD DISTRICT
MINE INSPECTOR I
HIRE DATE: JAN. 1, 2010

“INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT TO A GROUP EFFORT- THAT IS WHAT MAKES A TEAM WORK, A COMPANY WORK, A SOCIETY WORK, A CIVILIZATION WORK”

-VINCE LOMBARDI



WE'RE ON THE WEB

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Frankfort, KY 40601

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To View OMSL Disciplinary Cases Before
the Kentucky Mine Safety Review Com-
mission please go to:
WWW.OMSL.KY.GOV



OMSL District Offices and Addresses

Barbourville

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P.O. Box 1886
Barbourville, KY 40906

Tel. 606-546-5035
FAX: 606-545-9704

Supervisor: Ricky Johnson

Harlan

164 Ballpark Road
P.O. Box 836
Harlan, KY 40831

Tel. 606-573-1260
FAX: 606-573-1265

Supervisor: George Johnson

Hazard

556 Village Lane
P.O. Box 851
Hazard, KY 41702

Tel. 606-435-6079
FAX: 606-435-6078

Supervisor: Dave Mullins

Madisonville

625 Hospital Drive
P.O. Box 521
Madisonville, KY 42431

Tel. 270-824-7523
FAX: 270-824-7526

Supervisor: Ronnie Drake

Martin

Coal Building
P.O. Box 907
Martin, KY 41649

Tel. 606-285-3227
FAX: 606-285-9206

Supervisor: Randy Smith

Pikeville

284 Weddington Branch Road
P.O. Box 3023
Pikeville, KY 41501

Tel. 606-433-7742
FAX: 606-433-7763

Supervisor: Mike Elswick

*According to **KRS 351.025 (6)**, the Office of Mine Safety and Licensing will establish procedures to distribute quarterly reports to every licensed entity describing mine fatalities, serious mine accidents, and penalties imposed on certified and non-certified personnel and licensed premises and to require the report to be distributed to every certified working miner employed by the licensed entity, posted at work sites, and reviewed at regular mine safety meetings.*